

SPORT NOTES

By Claude Newman

RACE HORSES' INSOMNIA
PIKE'S PEAK, CRAZY RACE

"GOING TO THE DOGS"
DENVER U. COACH IS CALM

DENVER, Colo.—Some people worry about the funniest things. Here, for instance, the horse racing people have put in some time wondering about race horses having insomnia as a result of night racing.



Claude Newman

Their concern is over changing the habits of the equine friends. They want to know what happens when the horses run under the lights instead of out in the bright sunlight, which is the usual setting for the bangtails.

What they don't see is how a horse can run at night and be in any condition for the early morning works.

Of course, if they are like I am they won't be too concerned because in all the times I've been around horses I don't remember ever seeing one of them sound asleep at night. At least sound asleep like I would do it if I were a horse. Maybe Denver horses, like those elsewhere, sleep standing up.

I'm fully convinced though that a whole lot of animals I have bet money on were afflicted with a form of sleeping sickness causing them to take a short nap on the backstretch.

But as I pointed out, Denver operated its first racing with a modicum of success at Centennial Park and got experimental by running "night horses" at the Fairmount track, another equine spa here, causing General Manager Bill Tuney of Centennial to go over for a visit to see about the after-dark business. Bill, once an official at California's cozy Del Mar track, wasn't too sure of his findings at last reports. Who is, though, when it's horses.

Having just been over it, I can now say unequivocally that one of the maddest auto racing courses in the world is the one used here for an annual event.

It's the Pike's Peak run and if anybody wants a crazier flirtation with sudden death, calling it sport, I'm here to be shown where and how. It's a course of sharp curves, unbanked turns (for drainage in the winter), and numerous hazardous switchbacks.

How the drivers can negotiate all the turns, make the grade they must, and still go so fast without braking their necks is amazing. What confounds me is that over the course, the last 13 miles to the peak of America's most famous mountain, the winner will do it in approximately 15 minutes.

Is that good? You can be sure it is, especially if you have driven the last 13 miles which, in a race, would be like the galloways' 13 steps.

The town just got through "going to the dogs"—and enjoyed doing it.

Dogs in the picture were the fleet greyhounds at the Mile High Kennel Club in its second annual meeting and the town went for them well enough that the last Saturday night \$287,367 was bet on a 10-race program.

What's significant perhaps is that the dogs here averaged \$171,228 nightly, compared to last year's \$131,616. And at a time horse racing is complaining about a drop in pari-mutuel betting.

Johnny Baker, the ex-U.S.C. Trojan who coaches football at Denver University, has the non-ulcer producing approach to tutoring gridmen.

Leastwise it would seem so as he found solace in losing the season's opener to Drake, 7 to 0, by pointing out that DU's losers "only fumbled once." Remember Johnny? He's the famous Trojan to kick the field goal and beat Notre Dame, 16 to 14, nabbing a victory out at what seemed a hopeless cause.

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Reviews of Previews

By JERRY CAHILL

"FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE"

20th Century-Fox presents Joan Bennett, Robert Cummings, Clifton Webb, Edmund Gwenn, Joan Blondell & Gigi Perreau in a comedy.



Robert Cummings and Joan Bennett appear as a happily married couple, who think to much of their success as stage writers, to make plans for a family. Gigi Perreau is the girl tagged as their first child, and she's getting a little tired of waiting around for them to make their



minds up to be parents. Two angels, Edmund and Clifton, are sent down to earth, to patch up things. Clifton, posing as a wealthy Montana rancher, gets carried away and starts going around nightclubs with Joan Blondell to the consternation of brother-angel Gwenn. He finally comes



to his senses, and with Gwenn, arranges a beautiful and romantic setting, with moonlight, birds singing, etc. Joan and Robert forget all about their work in their affection for each other. Months later they learn they are to become parents, and little Gigi's problems are solved.

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